

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Andrew Michael Wild

Appln. No.: 10/549,375

Filed: September 14, 2005

Title: SURGICAL CLIP

Confirmation No.: 3476

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: TBA

Atty. Docket No.: 148392.00000

Customer No.: 25207

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

The citation of information on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant(s), is made pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56 and 1.97.

☒ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ Before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits.
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is below, or
 - ☐ Applicant(s) enclose the fee set forth in 37 CFR. 1.17(p)
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d), Applicant(s) make the following certification:
 - ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
 - ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

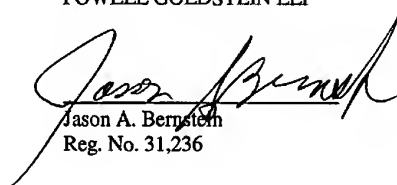
and

- ☐ Applicant(s) enclose the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the following statement pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e):
 - ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ Pursuant to M.P.E.P. Section 609C(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the payment of an issue fee, but without the certification and fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.97(d). Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be placed in the file of the instant application. Applicants also note that the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement were submitted in the parent application to which this application claims priority.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account 50-1429.

Respectfully submitted,
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